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Diseases & Disorders of the
Urinary Organs continued.

This was the case with the person for the supposed Cure of whom; Mrs Stephens received £5000 pending from the British parliament. A stone was found in his bladder after death. Dr Haller mentions an instance of a Spanish Bishop who lived fifty years with a stone in the bladder without feeling any pain from it.

A new mode of dissolving the stone has been proposed by injecting matters that will dissolve it into the Urethra. Lime water has been employed for this purpose, but without any effect. The Gastric juice has likewise been tried as a solvent upon the human Calculus both out of the bladder & in it, but from the result of the experiments of Dr Dossey published in his ~~inaugu~~ inaugural Dissertation

there is reason to fear there is not much reason to expect a radical remedy for calculus in that very active animal secretion. It is evident however from Dr Dossey's experiments that the gastric juice weakens the texture of the Calculus probably by dissolving the mucus only which the Dr. supposes to connect ~~the~~ its lamina. The Dr found the gastric juice of the hog to be more powerful than that of the dog, or any other animal, in dissolving this connecting matter of those lamina. In making similar experiments it should be recollected that the Calculi are composed of different matters, and of course require different solvents to act upon them. Dr Priestly informed me that he had once seen one of these Calculi

inflame

when held to a Candle. They are usually composed of fusible Calculus, the mulberry Calculus, and the bone earth Calculus; all of which yield different products when subjected to a Chemical Analysis. The ~~Urinary~~ Calculi found in other parts of the body differ likewise from those found in the bladder, and the Calculi of brutes differ in their products from those found in the human body. From these facts and the unsuccessfull issue of all attempts to dissolve the human Calculus in the bladder, we are naturally led to seek for other remedies – which if they do not dissolve it, prevent its increase, and lessen its pain.

These should be

when the Columbi are seated in them.

2 The Cold Bath applied to the whole body, or only to the region of the kidneys; the latter may be done either by pouring buckets of Cold water upon the back, or by ~~wrapping the~~ applying a napkin dipped in Cold water to that part of the body, once or twice a day, and afterwards by rubbing it for 10, or 15 minutes with a dry Cloth. I have heard of one instance, and know another, in which cures were performed of nephritic Calculi by the latter mode of applying Cold water to the external region of the kidneys.

3 Exercise. This should be confined only to calculus in the kidneys. It should moreover be of such a nature as to act indirectly upon

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the kidneys. Digging in a garden, and playing at bowls by gently bending the body is calculated to have that effect. Exercise of any kind acts further by promoting perspiration which never fails to lessen the quantity of lithic acid in the urine, and thus to prevent the increase of the calculus.

4 Drinking large quantities of pure river, or running water. I have seen obvious good effects from this remedy. The warm springs of Virginia and the waters of Ball town I believe do good in calculi more by the quantity taken, than by their quality. The Schuylkill water has lessened this disease in general of the citizens of

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Philadelphia, only from its purity & the large Quantities ~~of it~~ that have been taken of it. Where the taste and the stomach revolt at Drinking simple water, ~~it may~~ green tea, or any pleasant diuretic herb or seed, ~~may be infused in it~~ such as parsley, Scabies, wild carrot seed, or water melon seeds may be infused in it.

5 A Diet of Sugar. The Blackberry jam has been much commended in this complaint. The active ingredient in it I believe is the Sugar, for Dr Franklin who was much afflicted in the last years of his life with a stone in his bladder informed me that he found the same relief from Drinking a teaspoful of warm water with some Sugar dissolved in it that he had felt from

from the Blackberry jam.

6 ~~Change of~~ Warm Climate. Dr Moseley mentions the Case of a British Officer in whom perfect relief was obtained by exchanging the cold and Damp Climate of Great Britain for the warm Climate of Jamaica. It acted by promoting perspiration and probably thus lessening the quantity of the lithic acid in the Urine.

7 Avoiding all ~~the~~ remote ~~and~~ causes of the disease, and particularly such causes as excite a paroxysm of pain after the disease is formed. — The former are acid aliments, lying on the back, costiveness, incomplete discharge of the Urine, &c — the latter are cold, fatigue from all its causes, & riding violent passions of the mind &c on horseback, or in a carriage over rough

words. The last of these exciting causes brought a severe fit of the Disease upon Dr Franklin in Paris, which led him to say when he got out of his hack, that he would never ride in such a Carriage over rough stones again, until he was first satisfied the Driver had a stone in his bladder as well as himself.

By means of the remedies I have thus mentioned, I do not know that I have ever dissolved a stone in the kidneys or bladder, but I am sure I have relieved and destroyed its pain in many instances.

The great secret in the Use of these Remedies consists in using them when the Disease is least felt, and in persevering in the Use of them for several years. —